

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These remarks are submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement of June 29, 2006 (Office Action). This response is filed with a Request for Extension of Time. As expressly stated below, the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge the amount due for any retroactive extensions of time and any deficiency in any fees due to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner set forth a restriction requirement and required election of one of the following groups under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I: Claims 1-20 and 23-46, drawn to a method of negotiating a transaction, classified in class 705, subclass 14.

Group II: Claims 21 and 47, drawn to a method of configuring business objectives, classified in class 705, subclass 14.

Group III: Claims 22 and 48, drawn to a method of configuring consumer privacy rules, classified in class 705, subclass 14.

Applicants' Election

In response, Applicants hereby elect to pursue protection of the Group I claims, Claims 1-20 and 23-46. Applicants' election is made in an effort to expedite prosecution, and is not a surrender of any rights regarding any subject matter in the instant application. Applicants expressly reserve their right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in one or more divisional patent applications.

CONCLUSION

Applicants request that this submission also be considered as a petition for any further extensions of time if necessary. The Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks,

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as noted above, is expressly authorized to charge the amount due for any retroactive extensions of time and any deficiency in any fees due with the filing of this paper or credit any overpayment in any fees paid on the filing or during prosecution of this application to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Respectfully submitted,

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